IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-10 (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended): A turbo decoder operative to use a soft output Viterbi algorithm, said turbo decoder comprising:

a first decoding unit;

a second decoding unit, wherein an output of the first decoding unit is connected to an input of the second decoding unit and an output of the second decoding unit is connected to an input of the first decoding unit; and

a first normalization unit, wherein an output of the first normalization unit is connected to the output of the first decoding unit ~~the first decoding unit and second decoding unit are arranged according to a parallel or serial scheme; and~~

~~at least a first normalization unit located at an output side of the first decoding unit wherein a number of normalization units is smaller than the number of decoding units~~.

12-13 (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) A mobile communications device comprising a turbo decoder according to claim 11.

15. (Currently Amended): A turbo decoding method operative to use a soft output Viterbi algorithm, said turbo decoding method comprising the steps of:

providing a first and second decoding unit, wherein an output of the first decoding unit is connected to an input of the second decoding unit and an output of the second decoding unit is connected to an input of the first decoding unit,

normalizing data obtained from the first decoding unit by connecting the output of a first normalization unit to the output of the first decoding unit ~~using a plurality of decoding units, wherein said plurality of decoding units are arranged according to a parallel or serial scheme;~~

~~using at least a first normalization unit at an output of at least a first subset of the plurality of decoding units; and~~

~~normalizing data obtained from each of the plurality of decoding units with a respective normalization factor,~~

~~wherein data obtained from use of only a first subset of the plurality of decoding units are normalized with a normalization factor variable during operation and the data obtained from use of a second subset of the plurality of decoding units are normalized with a time constant normalization factor~~.

16-17 (Canceled).

18. (Currently Amended): The turbo decoding method according to claim 15,

~~wherein the plurality of decoding units include a first decoding unit which corresponds to the first subset of the plurality of decoding units and a second decoding unit which corresponds to the second subset of the plurality of decoding units, and~~

wherein data obtained from use of the first decoding unit is normalized with ~~the~~ a normalization factor variable during operation and data obtained from use of the second decoding unit is normalized with ~~the~~ a time constant normalization factor.

19-30 (Canceled).